

(b) and (c) University Grants Commission in its meeting held in October, 2000 is reported to have decided to constitute a Core Group to prepare a detailed syllabus/course of study on value education. The UGC accordingly has set up a Core Group under the chairmanship of Dr. Kireet Joshi to prepare the syllabus. The detailed syllabus when ready will be circulated to all universities and colleges in the country for guidance and action.

Education facilities in Government Schools

3113. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken any steps to provide better education facilities, particularly in Government schools, where most of the students belong to families unable to afford the expenses of education; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per para 5.7 of National Policy on Education 1986, there is a provision of essential facilities in primary schools, including at least 2 reasonably large rooms that are useable in all weathers, and the necessary toys, black boards, maps, charts, and other learning material. At least 2 teachers, one of whom a woman should work in every school, the number increasing as early as possible to one teacher per class. The said policy also provided for education for women's equality, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, backward sections and areas, minorities and handicapped, vocationalisation and pace setting schools.

Various programmes like Operation Black-Board, Teacher Education, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, District Primary Education Programme and the latest being Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which will prove a historic stride towards achieving the long cherished goal of UEE, have been introduced.

The various centrally sponsored enrichment schemes such as Educational Technology, Improvement of Science and Environmental

Education, Value Education, National Population Education and Computer Literacy Programme have also been introduced. The Government has always taken care of the educational disadvantaged group in rural areas. In this context Navodaya Vidyalayas have been established which are fully residential schools and provide good quality modern education, to all talented children in rural areas irrespective of socio-economic conditions. Education in Navodaya Vidyalayas, boarding and lodging, textbooks, uniforms etc. is free for all students.

State Government have also taken several measures in this regard. These measures include free education upto elementary stage, free text books and uniform etc. for weaker sections.

Computer Centres in Universities

3114. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the UGC has been providing financial assistance to Universities for establishment and augmentation of computer facilities;
- (b) if so, the details of computer centres in Universities and deemed Universities;
- (c) whether some of the Universities are conducting courses in MCA, M.Sc./B.E./B. Tech. in Computer Science; and
- (d) if so, the names of the Universities conducting such courses?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) A statement-I showing the details of computer centres in universities and deemed universities is enclosed. (*See below*)
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) Statement-II and III indicating the names of universities conducting such courses are enclosed.